



City of Seattle
Office of the Mayor

July 23, 2013

Honorable Sally Clark
President
Seattle City Council
City Hall, 2nd Floor

Dear Council President Clark:

I am pleased to transmit the attached proposed Council Bill implementing the urban design framework for the Mt. Baker Station area in the North Rainier Hub Urban Village. Proposed Land Use Code amendments and rezones support the values and objectives of the neighborhood's plan to create an active, pedestrian oriented town center in the vicinity of the Link Light Rail Mt. Baker Station.

In March 2011, the Council adopted policies updating the North Rainier Neighborhood Plan. The update culminated a multi-year effort working extensively with the community, including many that were underrepresented in past planning efforts. Once approved, the Department of Planning and Development continued to work with the community on an urban design framework. This framework established a clearer vision for future physical development of the neighborhood around the light rail station and has informed the recommended code amendments and rezones. The proposed amendments and rezones balance the goals of adding development capacity near the transit station, increasing housing supply at a variety of affordability levels, and using innovative urban design and public realm improvements to create an outstanding, vital and walkable town center.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. Should you have questions, please contact Lyle Bicknell at 684-0763.

Sincerely,

Michael McGinn
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council